



August 12, 2024

## Student Learning and Support Services Update

### Report on Strategic Plan Action Teams

Superintendent Michael Amadei provided the Board of Education with an overview of the progress to date as the leaders of the five action teams begin to convene and set dates for their meetings this school year. Progress to date regarding the strategic plan will continue throughout the school year. Dr. Amadei showed a brief video highlighting the strategic plan [vision](#) and what it means to students as part of the district's strategic plan video series.



### Strategic Goal Monitoring: Iroquois Community School

Principal Kelly Krueger and Assistant Principal John Rey shared an update from Iroquois Community School centering on how the school is focused on all five goals of the District 62 Strategic Plan. A copy of the presentation can be accessed [here](#).



## District 62 Board of Education

**Ronald Burton**  
President

**Elizabeth Massa**  
Vice President

**Stephanie Duckmann**  
Member

**Tina Garrett**  
Member

**Gene Haring**  
Member

**Beth Morley**  
Member

**Jeanette Weller**  
Member

**Margaret Goodchild**  
Secretary to the Board of Education

## Approval of Contract for Architectural Services

Over the last several months, administration has been working on securing architectural services from a new firm for the district. All of the requirements of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process as required by state law were followed. After selecting a group of firms to be interviewed from the 13 valid submissions and then ranking each firm, STR Partners was the firm ranked first. STR has already met with the district on moving forward over the next few months and toured some of our facilities. Administration is asking the Board to approve the architect contract with STR Partners.

## Review of Preliminary 2023-2024 Financial Statement and Approval of 2024-2025 Tentative Budget

The Board of Education approved the 2024-2025 tentative budget. Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Mark Bertolozzi provided the Board with a brief overview.

**Property Tax Levy:** The two factors that impact the levy are new property and the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The district projected a maximum of \$70 million in new property in order to capture the new developments within the district. The CPI used for the December 2023 levy is 3.4%, for taxes collected in the 2025 calendar year. With the levied 2.91% for taxes collected in calendar year 2024, an estimated levy increase of 3.15% would be expected. This does not factor in new construction. The Board of Education may choose to abate part of the levy again this year, which would make the increase in revenues slightly lower. A flat levy is tentatively budgeted. As reported every year, increases in property taxes income, including FY2025 and future years, is in jeopardy due to the potential property tax freeze legislation at the state level. For the first six months of CY2024 CPI is trending at approximately a 3.0% annual rate. Overall, the FY2025 budget will assume revenue increases from the tax levy at a lower-than-normal level.

**Student Fees:** No changes are suggested for FY2025.

**Interest Income:** Interest rates are expected to decrease slightly with changes in interest rate policy from the Federal Reserve. The projected interest rate factor for the FY2025 budget is 3.0%, which includes newer, shorter-term investments and long-term existing investments locked in at higher rates.

## District 62 Administration

**Dr. Michael Amadei**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Mark Bertolozzi**, Assistant  
Superintendent of Business Services

**Kathleen Kelly Colgan**, Assistant  
Superintendent for Human Resources

**Amy Cengel**, Assistant  
Superintendent for Instructional  
Services

**Dr. Ramona DeCristofaro**  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Student Services

**Adam Denenberg**,  
Chief Technology Officer

**Jennifer Tempest Bova**, Director  
of Community Relations

**Colin Baer**, Director of Social  
Emotional Learning

**Dr. Julie Fogarty**,  
Director of Curriculum

**Elizabeth Juskiewicz**, Director for  
Second Language Learners' Programs

**Heidi Rudy**, Director of Student  
Services

**Michael Vilendrer**, Director  
of Operations, Maintenance and  
Transportation

**Christina Bowman**,  
Curriculum Coordinator and Data  
Specialist

**Anel Escamilla**, ELL Coordinator

**Electra Giannakopoulos**, ELL  
Coordinator

**Karina Paul**, ELL Coordinator

**Erica Tae**, ELL Coordinator

**Jill Dzik**, Student Services  
Coordinator

**Benjamin Keele**, Student Services  
Coordinator

**Angela Riggio**, Student Services  
Coordinator

**Brandon Schaefer**, Student  
Services Coordinator

**Katerina Vaselopulos**, Student  
Services Coordinator

**State:** The state funding for education in Illinois is expected to be flat between FY24 and FY25. Evidence Based Funding (EBF) and categorical payments are expected to be mostly unchanged in FY25.

**Federal:** At this time, it appears that the district can anticipate that federal Title Funding will remain at the current FY24 levels. It has been the stated goal of the federal government to maintain educational funding.

### Approve Revision to Board Annual Agenda

The Board of Education adopted its annual agenda for the 2024-2025 school year. A copy of the agenda can be accessed [here](#) via the Board of Education page on the D62 website.

## Communications

### Board of Education

Member Morley shared an update on behalf of the District 62 Foundation. The Foundation is currently exploring a few fundraisers including a spelling bee to be held at the Des Plaines Theater in November. The Foundation is also looking to host a fundraiser as a Pickleball event in partnership with [Picklr](#) from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on September 29.

### Superintendent Report

Superintendent Dr. Michael Amadei shared that he met with Rivers Casino to discuss future partnership opportunities especially as it relates to inclusive playgrounds. He expressed appreciation for the fact that Rivers Casino would like to offer a way to support new teachers with school supplies as the year begins. The district will hold an Institute Day on August 16. The district has not gathered as an entire team since 2019. The keynote will be speaker Jimmy Casas who will focus on the importance of culture and the power of collaboration. The day will conclude with a lunch provided by OrganicLife.